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REPRESENTATIVE PICTURE

SCIENTISTS BAFFLED AS EARTH SPINS FASTER, SHRINKS DAYTIME

Earth took 1.59 milliseconds short of 24 hours to complete a full rotation on June 29, marking the shortest day in recent times. That record came close to being broken again last week, when July 26 came in 1.5 milliseconds short. Experts are not sure of the reasons though many theories have been floated. This is because the Earth's rotation is supposed to slow down over time — by a couple of milliseconds in 100 years — as the planet is constantly being tugged on by the Sun and Moon.

LIFTING GOLD, LIFE

BIRMINGHAM 2022

Despite facing hardships, Achinta Sheuli takes up weightlifting, wins gold at Commonwealth Games

STORY OF RESILIENCE

Achinta lost his father Jagat Sheuli, a rickshaw puller when he was just 11. He along with his elder brother Alok was forced to take odd jobs to make ends meet. Weightlifting acted as a soothing balm. Life is expected to change after he won 73kg gold on Sunday | P15,16

Shuttlers in final

Indian badminton team assured a medal after it entered mixed final. Doubles duo of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty put team 1-0 up before PV Sindhu made it 2-0. Lakshya Sen sealed the match with a win over Loh Kean Yew

Hockey draw

India were held to a 4-4 draw by hosts England in Pool B match

JUDO

Shushila wins silver

L Shushila Devi won silver in women's -48kg final after losing to South Africa's Michaela Whiteboil. Vijay Yadav won a bronze in men's -60kg catagory

SQUASH

Ghosal in semis, Joshna loses

Saurav Ghosal entered men's singles semis, but Joshna Chinappa lost to Canada's Hollie Naughton in the quarters

LAWN BOWLS

Fantastic fours create history

India lawn bowls team assured a medal for the first time in Commonwealth Games after beating New Zealand in women's fours semifinal. India will now face South Africa in the final on Tuesday

Inflation under control, claims FM

Combative Nirmala says price rise was worse during UPA; no question of recession in India

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

FINANCE Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday tore into the Congress-led Opposition that stalled Parliament over price rise, saying inflation was in double digits during the UPA regime. In her two-hour long reply to a debate on price rise in the Lok Sabha, She said her government contained inflation at 7% despite facing multiple globally disruptive events such as the pandemic and the Russia-Ukraine conflict. The current inflation, she said, is driven by food prices adding that the situation will improve soon.

"During the UPA regime, inflation was more than 9% for 22 consecutive months. We have been trying to bring inflation below 7%, but we are being criticised," Sitharaman said. She pointed out that inflation rose to double digits as many as nine times during the UPA regime.

Asserting that India's economy is good shape, she said there is no question of a recession. To buttress her point, she quoted a Bloomberg report that pegged India's probability of slipping into recession at zero per cent.

Sitharaman averred that the fundamentals of the economy are strong with NPAs at six-year low and GST mop-up remaining above ₹1.4 lakh crore levels for five straight months.

Comparing India's economic situation with other countries, the FM noted the US' GDP shrank in two consecutive quarters, pushing the country into an unofficial recession.

As for China, 4,000 banks are on the verge of bankruptcy.

"There is no question of India getting into recession or stagflation. The Bloomberg report has said that India has zero probability of getting into recession," she said, highlighting that India's debt-to-GDP ratio has come down to 56.29% in 2021-22. This, the minister said, is far better than many countries including the US, Canada, Japan, Italy, and Singapore.

The FM's reply to the price-rise debate in the Rajya Sabha is slated for Tuesday.

Meanwhile, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Monday revoked the suspension of Congress MPs Manickam Tagore, Ramya Haridas, T N Prathapan and S Jothimani, who faced action for holding placards in the House.

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I-DAY: KARNATAKA ON HIGH ALERT

BALA CHAUHAN @ Bengaluru

KARNATAKA is on high alert for the 75th Independence Day following inputs from Central agencies and recent spate of raids conducted by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) which reportedly have exposed an "active" ISIS-Khorasan (IS-K) module in the state.

The NIA is looking for at least two persons "of interest" from Bhatkal and Tumakaru, who are said to be closely associated with IS-K and are reportedly heading the propaganda of the banned global jihadist organisation through its India-centric magazine - Voice of Hind - in India after the arrest of Jufri Jawhar Damudi (30) from Bhatkal in August last year. Last month, Akhtar Hussain - an allegedly highly radicalised youth from Assam - in South Bengaluru and his associate Adil alias Zuba from Salem in Tamil Nadu were arrested. P5

Qaeda chief's warning

Agencies have also taken the warning on two occasions of Al Qaeda's chief Ayman al- Zawahiri to India seriously.

The area in Parvathamukhi village in DK district where the landslide occurred

Landslide leaves 2 girls dead in DK dist

Mangaluru: The bodies of two minor girls were recovered after their house collapsed following a landslide in Parvathamukhi village at Subramanya in Dakshina Kannada district on Monday night, said Dakshina Kannada SP Rishikesh Sonawane. The victims are Shruti (11) and Jnanashri (8). District in-charge minister V Sunil Kumar said NDMF and SDMF personnel rushed to the spot for rescue operation which was hindered by rain and darkness. Four villages were marooned after heavy rain lashed Harihara Balugodu, Kollamogru, Kalmakaru near Subramanya on Monday. DK DC Dr Rajendra KV has restricted devotees from visiting Kukke Subramanya temple for next two days. ENS

EXPRESS READ

K'taka GST mop-up jumps by 45%

Bengaluru: Karnataka's GST collection for July 2022 jumped by 45 per cent compared to the same period last year to ₹10,000 crore. The state's recovery rate is the highest among other large states like Maharashtra, Gujarat, and Tamil Nadu | P4

B'luru receives over 95 mm of rainfall in 4 hrs

Bengaluru: Heavy rain lashed the city on Monday evening resulting in waterlogging in low-lying areas in north B'luru. According to Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre website, city received 95.5 mm rainfall between 7.15 pm and 11:30 pm | P2

NTR's daughter dies by suicide

Legendary actor and former CM of Andhra Pradesh late N T Rama Rao's daughter Kanthamaneni Uma Maheswari died by suicide at her residence in Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad, on Monday. According to sources, Uma Maheswari, the youngest of NTR's 12 children, was suffering from depression due to some health issues. | P5